

Message Text

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61/11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /078 W

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R 200515Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1307

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMMEMBASSY SEOUL 619

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 5605

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (E.O., TAGS & SUBJ LINE OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, KS, MY, NL

SUBJECT: KOREAN ISSUE IN THE UNGA

REF: A. STATE 196479 (NOTAL) B. SEOUL 6394 (NOTAL)

C. JAKARTA 10207 (NOTAL) D. JAKARTA 102&5 (NOTAL)

E. KUALA LUMPUR 5044 (NOTAL) F. KUALA LUMPUR 5490 (NOTAL)

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF SEPT 18, NETHERLANDS EMBASSY
SECOND SECRETARY VORNIS RECOUNTED CONVERSATION ABOUT KOREAN
ISSUE IN JULY WITH ZAIN AZRAAI, PRINCIPAL PRIVATE SECRETARY
TO PRIME MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS. AT THAT TIME
AZRAAI STATED THAT MALAYSIA ALMOST CERTAINLY WOULD ABSTAIN
FROM VOTING ON ANY RESOLUTIONS FAVORING ONE SIDE OR OTHER TO
KOREAN DISPUTE FOR FEAR OF OFFENDING EITHER NORTH OR SOUTH
KOREA. ACCORDING TO VORNIS' RECOLLECTION OF DISCUSSION,
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AZRAAI DID INDICATE THAT GOM MIGHT CHANGE ITS MIND AND VOTE

IN FAVOR OF A RESOLUTION IF PRESSED TO DO SO BY A
"FRIENDLY" COUNTRY. VORNIS TOOK THIS TO MEAN ONE OF
MALAYSIA'S ASEAN PARTNERS, MOST LIKELY INDONESIA.

2. DURING SEPT 16 CALL ON ZAINAL ABIDIN, MFA PRINCIPAL
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EAST ASIA, EMBOFFS WERE TOLD THAT
GOM STILL HAD NOT FINALIZED ITS POSITION ON KOREAN ISSUE
IN CURRENT UNGA. ABIDIN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN POSITION
OF PRC ON MATTER WITHOUT INDICATING HOW THAT WOULD AFFECT
GOM THINKING ON THE ISSUE.

3. COMMENT: AT THIS POINT WE AND OTHER DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES
CONSIDER IT HIGHLY LIKELY MALAYSIANS WILL ABSTAIN FROM
VOTING IN FAVOR OF (OR FOR THAT MATTER, OPPOSING) EITHER
"FRIENDLY" OR "HOSTILE" RESOLUTIONS. HOWEVER, BASED ON
NETHERLAND'S EMBOFF'S CONTACTS WITH WELL PLACED ADVISER TO
PM, ASEAN ANGLE MIGHT BE WORTH EXPLORING (SEE REFTELS A AND
B). WE NOTE THAT LAST YEAR PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND OPPOSED
HOSTILE RESOLUTION, WITH MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE AND
INDONESIA (THE THREE ASEAN MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP)
ABSTAINING.

UNDERHILL

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